

# **OPEN AND PUBLIC MEETINGS**

## **2016**

**February 2016**

# PRELIMINARY THOUGHT

“ITS BETTER TO BE A MOUSE IN A CATS MOUTH  
THAN A MAN IN A LAWYER’S HANDS.”

Old Spanish Proverb

# OPEN & PUBLIC MEETINGS

- 1) What is a meeting?
- 2) Who is subject to the Open and Public Meetings Act?
- 3) What is a public hearing?

- 4) Are work meetings, site visits, and executive sessions subject to the Act?
- 5) What are the requirements for public notice of a public meeting?
- 6) Can a topic not listed on an open meeting agenda be discussed by a public body?

- 7) Must both the recording and written minutes of a public meeting be kept?
- 8) What items should the minutes and a recording include?
- 9) Who is exempt from keeping both written and recorded minutes?

- 10) Can a person independently record a meeting?
- 11) Can an electronic meeting be held?
- 12) When may a closed meeting be held?

13) What are valid reasons for closing a meeting?

14) Can a decision be made in a closed meeting?

15) Must minutes be kept of a closed meeting?

16) Is there a penalty for closed meeting violation?

17) Can a person disclose the contents of a closed meeting outside of a closed meeting?



# LEGISLATION

- I think I can say, and say with pride that we have some legislatures that bring higher prices than any in the world.

- Mark Twain speech 7/4/1873

- ...it's so hard to find men of a so high type of morals that they'll stay bought.

Mark Twain - Notebook for Aug. 1890-June 1891